Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 EB-11 FRB-03 INR-11

NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 SP-03 CIEP-03

LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 DRC-01 /095 W

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P 010619Z AUG 74 FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2522 USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, TW

SUBJ: RAILROAD ELECTRIFICATION

REF: A) STATE 149770, B) TAIPEI 41.

- 1. EMBOFF INFORMED BY MINISTRY OF FINANCE (MOF) OFFICIALS
 JULY 31 OF DISCUSSION BETWEEN ROC AMBASSADOR SHEN AND
 EXIMBANK PRESIDENT CASEY JULY 26. AMBASSADOR HAD CALLED
 ON CASEY TO ATTEMPT SOFTEN TERMS IN EXIM BANK'S LOAN
 AND GUARANTEE FOR RAILROAD ELECTRIFICATION PROJECT.
 ACCORDING TO MOF, EXIM HAS OFFERED 20 PERCENT CASH PAYMENT,
 40 PERCENT LOAN WITH 8 PERCENT INTEREST AND GUARANTEE OF
 20 PERCENT.
- 2. IN RESPONSE TO ROC APPEAL, CASEY, ACCORDING TO MOF, SAID IF ROC INSISTED ON ORIGINAL TERMS OF PRELIMINARY COMMITMENT (P/C) EXIM BANK WOULD HAVE TO REDUCE NUMBER OR AMOUNT OF OTHER LOANS NOW UNDER CONSIDERATION FOR ROC. ACCORDING TO TEXT OF ROC EMBASSY WASHINGTON TELEGRAM READ TO EMBOFF, HE CONCLUDED BYSAYING "ROC MAY FEEL FREE TO SHIFT SUPPLIERS."

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3. MOF RECOGNIZES CONDITIONS HAVE CHANGED SINCE P/C

ORIGINALLY ISSUED. IT HAS, THEREFORE,INSTRUCTED ROC EMBASSY TO ACCEPT ALL OF EXIM'S PROPOSED TERMS EXCEPT ONE. IT SUGGESTS WHAT IT CONSIDERS REASONABLE COMPROMISE, WHICH WOULD BE 20 PERCENT DOWN PAYMENT (INSTEAD OF ORIGINAL 10 PERCENT), 40 PERCENT EXIM LOAN (INSTEAD OF ORIGINAL 45 PERCENT) AND GUARANTEE OF 20 PERCENT (INSTEAD OF 22.5 PERCENT). HOWEVER, GROC DOES WANT TO KEEP ORIGINAL 6 PERCENT INTEREST RATE INSTEAD OF 8 PERCENT NOW OFFERED BY EXIM BANK.

4. VICE MINISTER OF FINANCE WANG SHAO-YU STRESSED TO ECON COUNS JULY 30 THAT GROC WILLINGNESS TO GIVE PART OF RAIL-ROAD ELECTRICFICATION PACKAGE TO US SUPPLIERS BASED ON FAVORABLE FINANCING SINCE TAIWAN RAILWAY ADMINISTRATION (TRA) STRONGLY FAVORED ACCEPTING GEC PROPOSAL. IF COMPROMISE OFFERED BY MOF NOT ACCEPTABLE, HE STATED GROC WILL HAVE TO RECONSIDER ENTIRE PACKAGE. RESULT COULD BE THAT NO US FIRM WILL BE AWARDED A CONTRACT.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: CONSTRUCTION, RAILROADS, ELECTRIC POWER, BANK LOANS, PROPOSALS (BID)

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 01 AUG 1974 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974TAIPEI04804

Document Number: 1974TAIPEI04804 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A Film Number: D740209-0511

From: TAIPEI

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740881/aaaacrmx.tel

Line Count: 81

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Office: ACTION EA

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Previous Gassincation: Elivities of Fichal Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: A) STATE 149770, B) TAIPEI 41. Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED

Review Authority: boyleja Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 12 AUG 2002

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12-Aug-2002 by rowelle0>; APPROVED <25 FEB 2003 by boyleja>

Review Markings:

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: RAILROAD ELECTRIFICATION

TAGS: EFIN, TW, US, XMB To: STATE COM

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005